

Appl. No. 10/824,889  
Amdt. Dated October 6, 2005  
Reply to Office action of Sept. 1, 2005

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the first paragraph of page 9 lines 1-17 with the following amended paragraph:

A- As seen in Fig. 1 a cat's toenail 2 is located on top of the animals toe pad 4 and thus not in contact with the walking surface unless extended by the muscles in the cat's foot. Further the nail is very sharp and kept in a sharpened state by the nail's fast growth and the shedding of a scale like polymeric sheath. Trimming the tip 6 of the nail 2 as shown in fig. 2 prior to applying a polymeric sheath or nail cap 8 leaves a very small void 10 at the end of the cap ~~10~~ 8. Since the nail 2 must be trimmed prior to applying the cap 8, any adhesive applied to the inside of the cap 8 is forced into the void 10 forming a bond between the cap 8 and the end of the nail tip 6. It is very difficult to apply the precise amount of adhesive to the inside of the cap to prevent excessive adhesive from being extruded from the cap 8 thereby causing the excessive adhesive to become matted in the animal's fur or preventing the cap from being seated properly. In any case as the cat's nails grows it takes only a few days for the polymeric sheath to decay and thus break the adhesive bond allowing the cap 8 to fall off the toe nail 2. It should be noted during this disclosure that the nail caps 8 are very small and difficult to handle. In some cases, forceps and tweezers are

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OK to enter